

# National Park Service



EXPERIENCE  
YOUR  
AMERICA



Welcome to the VISITOR  
FACILITY PLANNING MODEL

# AGENDA

## How NPS develops facility benchmarks

- Model definition & impetus
- Schedule
- Research & development process
- Levels of detail
- Limits/controls
  - ▶ Types of input required
- Two case histories
  - ▶ North Cascades NP
  - ▶ Arches NP
- Questions

# What is the Facility Planning Model?

- A computer program for predicting realistic project size and cost
  - ▶ Developed from “Excel” into a stand-alone program
  - ▶ Can be down-loaded from website
  - ▶ Requires simple data input
  - ▶ Gives comprehensive results ( Size of impacted area, site work, building size, utilities, access, any special circumstances and net construction cost)
- Responsive to unique circumstances
  - ▶ Permits customization with justifications
  - ▶ Records defining assumptions

# Why are we doing this?

- Establish consistent facility development practices (benchmark values)
  - ▶ NAPA report of 1998
  - ▶ Congressional & GAO concerns
- Improve NPS budget requests (PMIS)
- Provide guidance for arriving at accurate size and cost figures in early project definition (GMP)

# Where are we in the development process?

## Initial work:

- Maintenance Facility Planning Models (2001)

- ▶ Available at <http://construction.den.nps.gov>

## Current studies:

- Visitor Facility now complete (May 2003)
- Museum collection facilities now in the final testing phase (Summer 2003)
- Other types currently in progress (FY 2003)
  - ▶ Administrative buildings
  - ▶ Entrance and comfort stations

# Looking ahead (2004 and beyond)

## **Models and Research:**

- Site Improvements (funded)
- Sewage & water treatment plants (funded)
- Wild land & structural fire-fighting facilities (funded)
- Additional facility models & upgrades
- Improved visitation data and projections
- Planning model for an entire park
- Active link to cost estimating tool

# Who is involved in shaping the model?

- NPS professionals

- ▶ WASO, regions, design centers, and parks

- Private architectural and planning firms

- ▶ David N. Sloan & Associates
- ▶ Architectural Research Consultants, Incorporated
  - Experienced in facility planning: Immigration & Naturalization Service, Sandia National Laboratories, BIA, other state & local agencies

- NPS evaluation & test groups

- ▶ Parks, regions, & design centers



# What has research covered?

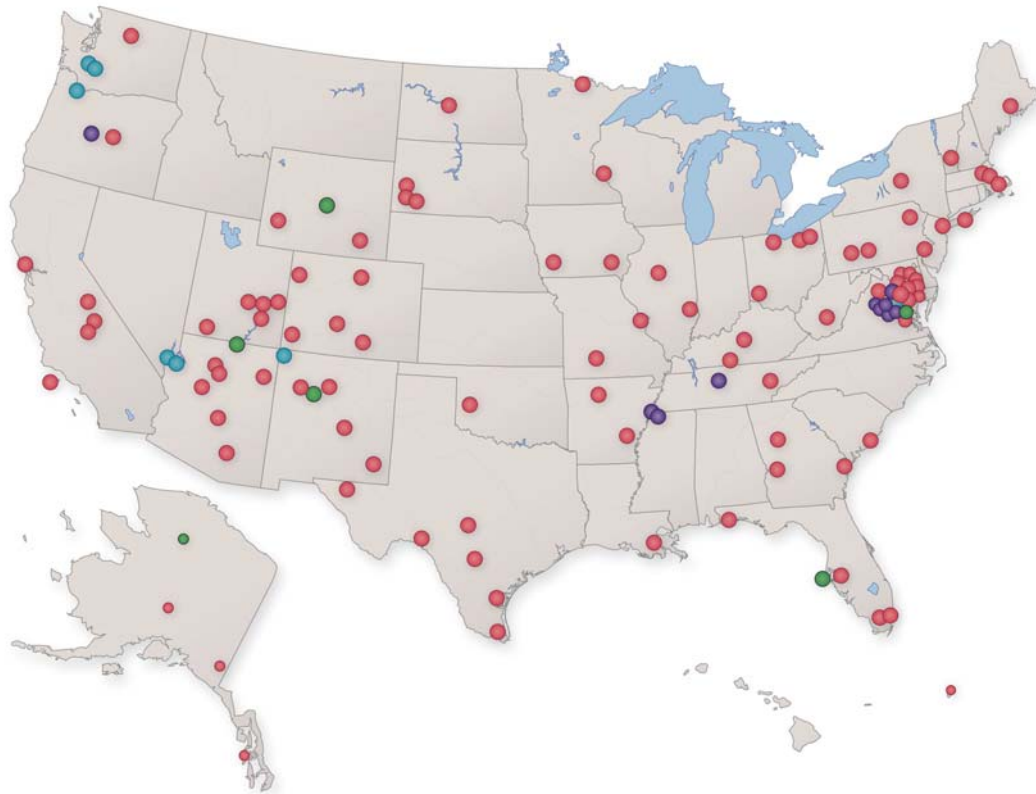
- Industry standards and guidelines
- State and Federal design and planning guides
- NPS publications and studies
- Studies of over 170 visitor facilities
- Visits to more than 40 facilities
- Analysis of facility user surveys
- Testing and refinement





# How were over 122 parks chosen for study?

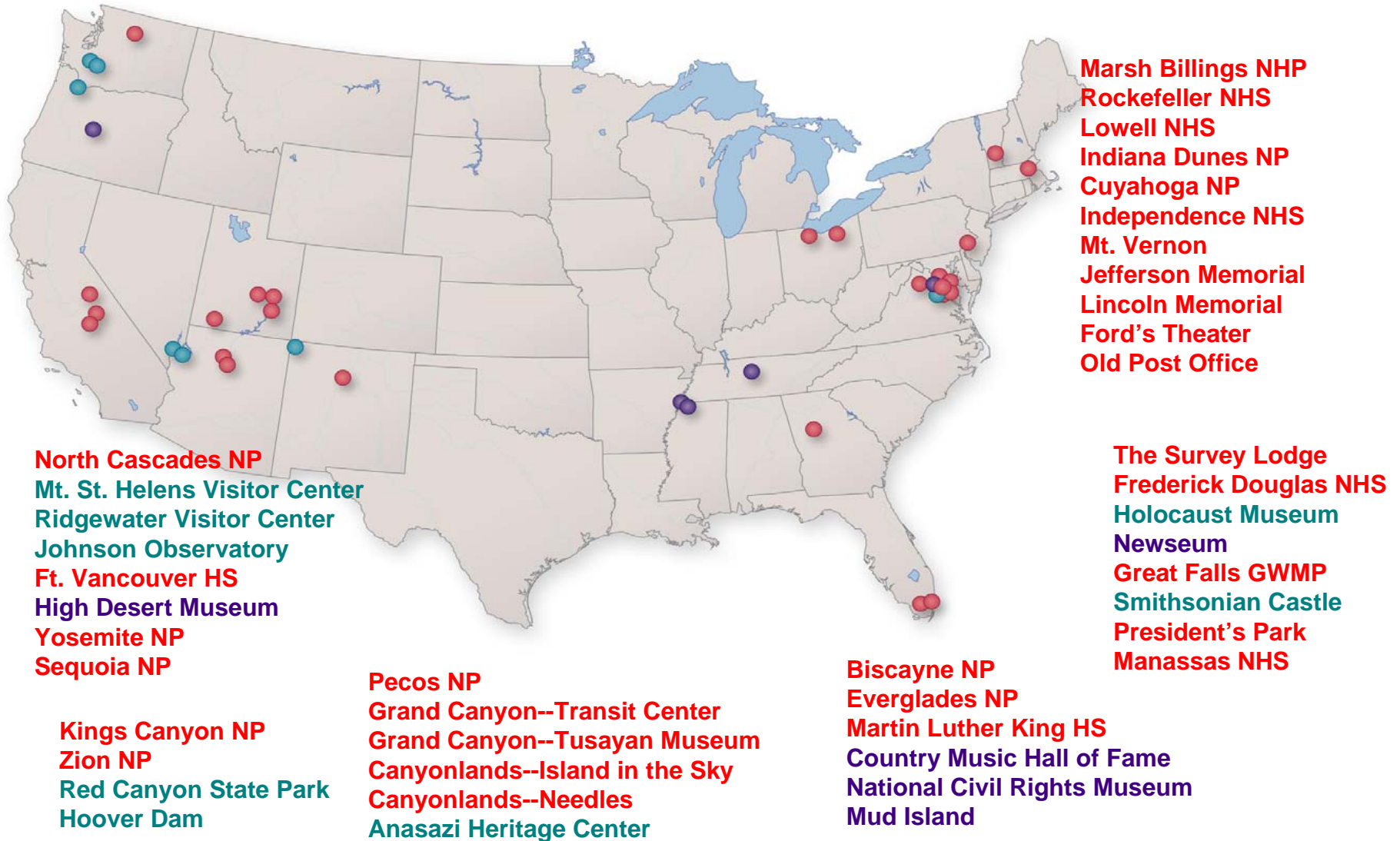
- Wide distribution to prevent organizational and regional bias
- Recent construction (10-20 years) to reveal universal trends



172 facilities were used for various studies

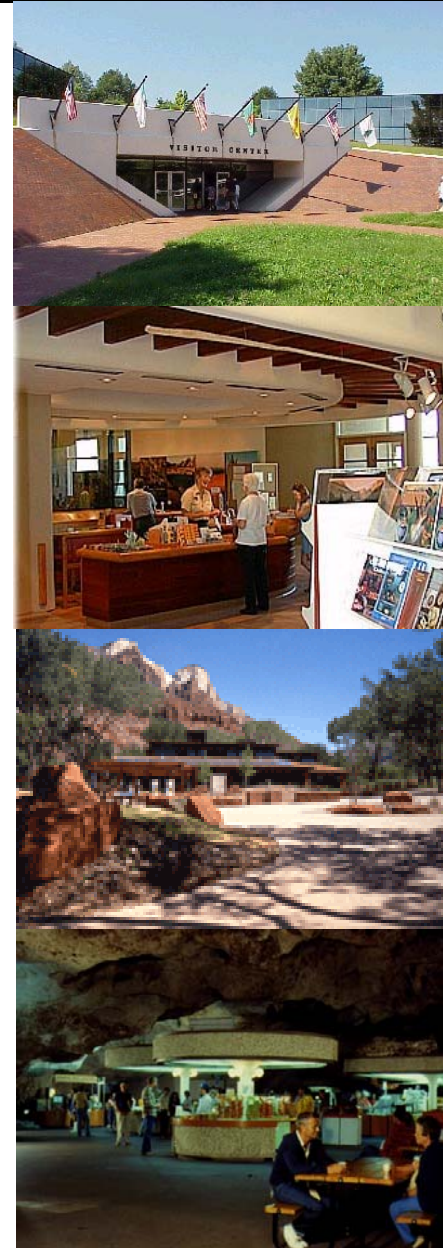
- ▶ **136 NPS facilities**
- ▶ **6 Private organizations**
- ▶ **17 additional public / private museums**
- ▶ **14 Other agencies**

# Which 42 sites were visited?



# Where did the visitor model development begin?

- Built upon format and process from initial work on Maintenance Facility Planning Model
- Evaluated existing visitor facilities
  - ▶ How they operate
  - ▶ What their functions are
  - ▶ What works and what doesn't
- Researched guidelines and standards (government and private sector)
- Compiled and analyzed the data



# What were areas of detailed research and study?

## ● Major public spaces

- ▶ Exhibit areas
- ▶ Bookstores
- ▶ Theaters
- ▶ Lobbies

## ● Impact of Visitors on space

- ▶ Their numbers
- ▶ Their length of stay
- ▶ Their traffic patterns





# What were next steps in model development?

- Determine fundamental visitor facility drivers
  - ▶ Visitation
  - ▶ Functions
  - ▶ Staff
- Assemble the model
- Test to assure service-wide applicability
- Adjust and retest
- Enter cost data for function types (future)



# How responsive is the model?

## ● Provides two levels of detail

### Quick Calculator

#### Used to:

- Prepare General Management Plan estimates
- Respond to an immediate request for information

#### The model:

- Requires minimal input
- Predicts a range of sizes and costs for preliminary planning purposes
- Generates results 10-20% higher than the Custom Calculator

### Custom Calculator

#### Used to:

- Prepare PMIS estimates

#### The model:

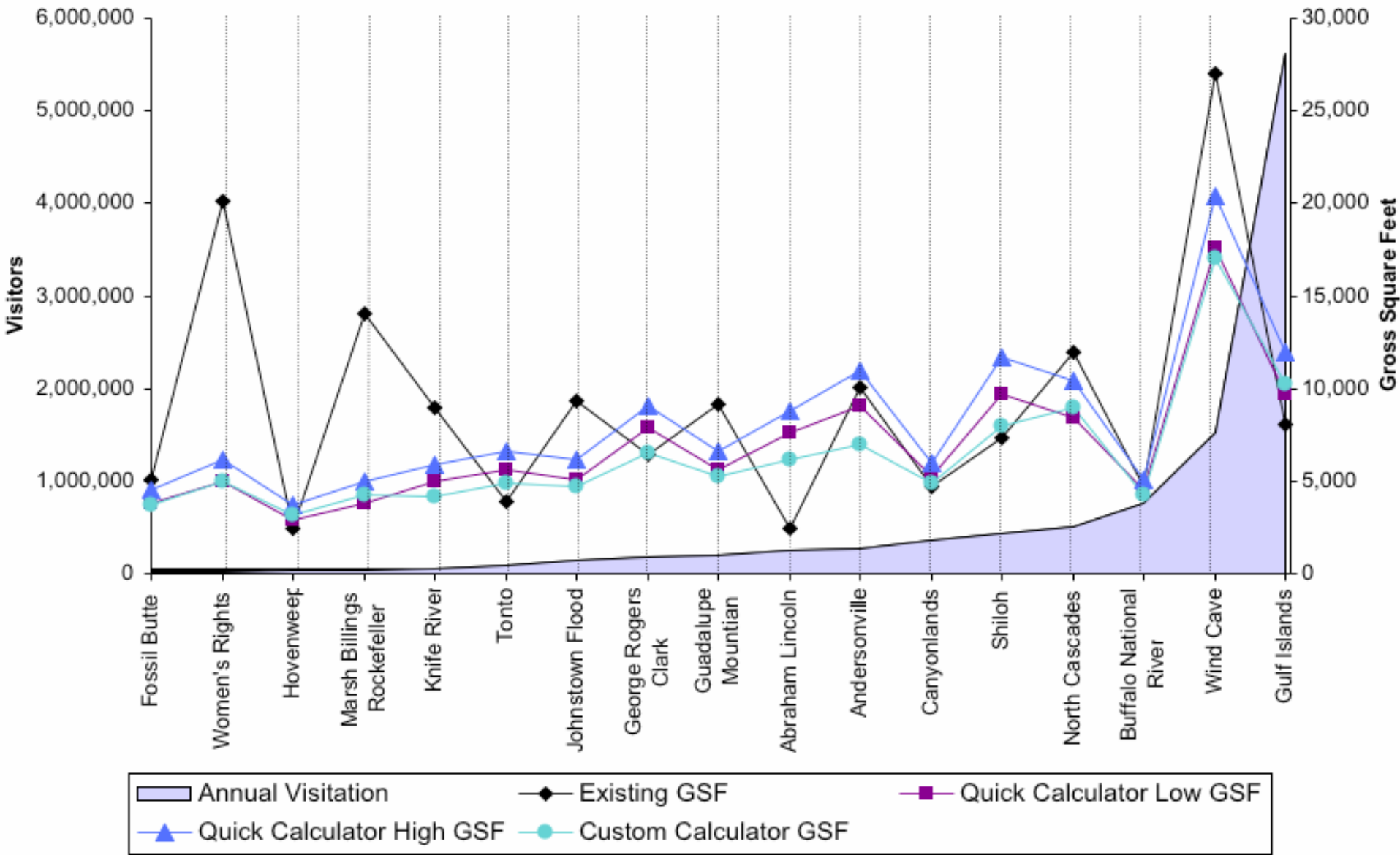
- Provides definitive size and costs based on identified functions
  - Allows adjustments
- Records justifications for decisions outside recommended criteria
- Gives detailed checklist as prelude to programming
  - Produces complete facility development size and costs

#### Both models:

- Allow for 'What If' trials
- Produce a record of early assumptions
- Document additional studies required

# How do benchmarks compare with built facilities?

NPS Facility Calculator Baseline Calculations





# Are there any limits to how big a facility can be?

- Primary mechanisms for controlling facility size:

1. Visitation database
2. Space criteria
3. Space caps
4. Area check-points
  - (a) Ranges of recommended area per person for public space
  - (b) Staff space as a limited percentage of the building gross

# 1. What is the Visitation Database?

**NPS records that are specific for each park**

## ● Expanded Database elements

- ▶ Latest year's annual visitation (2002)
- ▶ Growth factor (as demonstrated over the last ten years, plus or minus)
- ▶ Design target of 90% of peak attendance (average of the two peak visitation months)
- ▶ Benchmark capture rate (based on number of visitors and historic trends)
- ▶ Fixed amount of time spent at facility (from NPS surveys and private sector measurements)

## 2. What are Space Criteria and how do they work?

### Development Standards specific to each functional type of space

#### ● For public spaces

- ▶ Unit Multiplier (in square feet) researched
- ▶ Visitor count determined to be appropriate for sizing that type of space (% of peak on-site visitation for public spaces)
- ▶ Example: Lobby size equals a fractional number of visitors times a specific area per person

#### ● For staff areas

- ▶ GSA values

### 3. How do Space Caps work?

#### Used for Public Spaces

- Limit a functional area to a maximum size
- Shift any square footage generated above the limit to an exterior space
- Permit two possible exceptions:
  - ▶ Exhibit area—for oversized exhibits
  - ▶ Second theater/multipurpose room if needed
- Set a minimum threshold for functional areas

## 4.a. What is an Area Check-point for Public Spaces? How does it work?

**Total public space in net square feet  
divided by number of on-site visitors**

- Is a common method for evaluating space
- Uses sliding scale based on peak on-site visitation (economy of numbers)
- Signals when benchmark has been exceeded
  - ▶ Offers two possible responses:
    - Rerun model with amended input
    - Justify existing decisions

## 4.b. How are Area Check-points for Staff Functions applied?

**Net square feet of staff use divided by total building gross square footage**

- Gives functional space as a building percentage
- Signals when benchmark has been exceeded
  - ▶ Offers two possible responses:
    - Rerun model with amended input
    - Justify existing decisions

# Does the model put absolute controls on the square footages allocated?

## ● Yes and no. The Model:

- ▶ Compares park requested spaces with established benchmarks
- ▶ Responds to varied needs and missions by design intent
- ▶ Contains built-in limits and existing databases
- ▶ Indicates additional new functions and/or sizes exceeding recommended square footages
- ▶ Leaves ultimate decision to NPS insight and authority
- ▶ Must be considered a guide rather than an imperative
  - INS Border Patrol, GSA use only guidelines, not rigid standards




# Case History One: Visitor Facility Planning Model (Custom Calculator)



**North Cascades National Park/Ross Lake NRA**

# What is your level of knowledge--Planning or PMIS?



## NPS Facility Calculators

1) Please select a Calculator Type.  
2) Select a previous Project Title, or click "New Project".  
3) Enter summary information, and when ready, press the "Next" button.

Definitions: [Quick Calculator](#)  
[Custom Sizing Calculator](#)

### Calculator Types

- Visitor Facility
- Maintenance Facility
- Museum Collection Facility
- Education Facility
- Comfort Station
- Entry Station
- Administrative Facility
- Ranger Station

### Project Titles (Visitor Facility)

- Arches CC1
- Arches CC2
- Arches CC1
- North Cascades CC1
- North Cascades QC1

### Summary

Project Title: North Cascades CC1

PMIS Number: 11111

Region: Pacific West

Park Name: Ross Lake NRA

Your Name: Tim Mann

Your Job Title: Chief of Interpretation

Approved By: Jon Jarvis

Job Title: Regional Director

Created Date: 04/24/03 7:15:31 AM

Modified Date: 04/24/03 10:40:42 AM

Calculator Mode: ☐ Quick Calculator  
☒ Custom Sizing Calculator

Start Over

New Project

Edit Project Title

Duplicate Project

Delete Project


View Report

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Next >>

# Is this facility to be new, a rehab, an addition?

North Cascades CC1



## General Project Questions

Please respond to the following questions concerning your project type. Check the box for the questions that are true.

☒ Is this a new facility?

☐ Is this a new facility that replaces an existing facility?

If the existing facility will be demolished, enter the gross square footage slated for demolition.

☐ Is this a rehabilitation of an existing facility?

☐ Is this an addition to an existing facility?

☐ Is this both a rehabilitation and an addition?

If this is an existing facility, what is the existing gross square footage?

☐ Is this structure eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places?

☐ If yes, do you have an approved Historic Structure Report?

☐ Is it on the list of Classified Structures?

☒ Yes Does your site or other factors indicate a need for a two-story building?

Start Over


Save

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# What type of visitor facility will you have?

North Cascades CC1

 **Visitor Facility Description**

Which statement below best describes the facility that you need? Please choose one:

☒ The facility will have functions typically found in a visitor facility. These include, but are not limited to, lobby, information desk, exhibit area, public restrooms, theater, interpretation offices and support spaces. **'Typical' VC**

☐ The facility has typical visitor facility functions, but also will be a hub for multiple modes of transportation requiring bus, train, and/or boat facilities. An example of this type of facility is the Zion National Park Visitor Facility. **Typical plus transportation hub**

☐ The facility has typical visitor facility functions, but also will be the starting point for ticketed, guided tours of the park. An example of this type of facility is Carlsbad Caverns National Monument Visitor Facility. **Typical plus ticketed or guided tours**

☐ The facility has typical visitor facility functions but, also will require a large exhibition space to show a museum collection. **Typical plus large collection display**


☐ The facility's primary function is to exhibit a museum collection. **Primary function is exhibiting a collection**

☐ The facility is not the main visitor facility, but is a small visitor contact station. **Contact station**

☐ The facility has typical visitor facility functions, but is a shared facility with another agency or is a partnership with, for instance, a local municipality. **Partnership or shared with other agencies**

# What role will this facility play in the visitor experience?

North Cascades CC1



## Visitor Facility Description

What is the role of this visitor facility in the park? Check all that apply.

☒ Yes

Is the facility a main destination for visitors?

☒ Yes

Is this one of multiple visitor facilities and contact stations?

If yes, what is the total number of Visitor Facilities or Contact Stations?

☒ Yes

Is this a main visitor facility for your park (which has more than one visitor facility)?

☐

If yes, is there a facility within a 20-to-30-minute drive of this one?

If yes, what makes your facility unique? Describe below:

Of the following information services, what is the relative proportion of orientation, interpretation, and education information expressed as a percentage of the services you provide, e.g. 20%-60%-20%? The figures must total 100%.

% Orientation

% Interpretation

% Curriculum-based Education

Start Over

Save


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# Select your park. What if it is too new to have records of visitation data?

North Cascades CC1

 **Park Name**

Select Your Park


The following questions require detailed knowledge of the needs of the visitor facility. As an aid in completing these questions, please select your park. If your park is not on the list because it is new, please choose a comparable park to use as a reference.

☐ Is this a comparable park to be used as the basis for your facility?

Your Selection:

- Redwood National & State Parks
- Richmond NBP
- Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River
- Rock Creek Park
- Rocky Mountain NP (East Slope)
- Rocky Mountain NP (West Slope)
- Roger Williams NMem
- Roosevelt Campobello International Park
- Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front NHP
- Ross Lake NRA**
- Russell Cave NM
- Sagamore Hill NHS
- Saguaro NP
- Saint Croix Island International HS
- Saint Croix NSR
- Saint Paul's Church NHS
- Saint-Gaudens NHS
- Salem Maritime NHS
- Salinas Pueblo Missions NM

# Is it possible to change some of the visitation numbers?



## Visitation


Park Visitation

**Definitions:** [Total Annual Park Visitation](#)  
[Peak Monthly Park Visitation](#)  
[Capture Rate \(%\)](#)

Please be prepared to provide visitation projections to substantiate these numbers.

Your response to the following questions will be the basis for sizing the public spaces in the visitor facility. The variables can have a dramatic impact on the size of a space. Therefore, the left hand column shows your park's peak annual visitation and peak monthly park visitation. The average percentage of visitors expected to stop and anticipated stay is based on data of study parks. If you do not believe your park is typical of these percentages, please indicate the change in the right-hand column and provide data to support the change.

	<u>Selected Park Statistics</u>	<u>Requested Changes</u>
Annual Park Visitation:	<input type="text" value="387,216"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total Annual Park Visitation (with growth factor):	<input type="text" value="513,855"/>	<input type="text"/>
Avg. Peak Months (% of Annual):	<input type="text" value="25.1"/>	<input type="text"/>
Estimated percent of visitors that stop at the Visitor Facility (% capture rate):	<input type="text" value="25"/>	<input type="text"/>
Average Time of Stay at Visitor Facility (hr):	<input type="text" value="0.5"/>	<input type="text"/>
		<input type="button" value="Clear"/>

**Note!**

The Average Peak Visitors per Day is:  
The Average Peak Visitors per Hour is:  
The Average Peak On-Site Visitors is:

Based on the above responses:



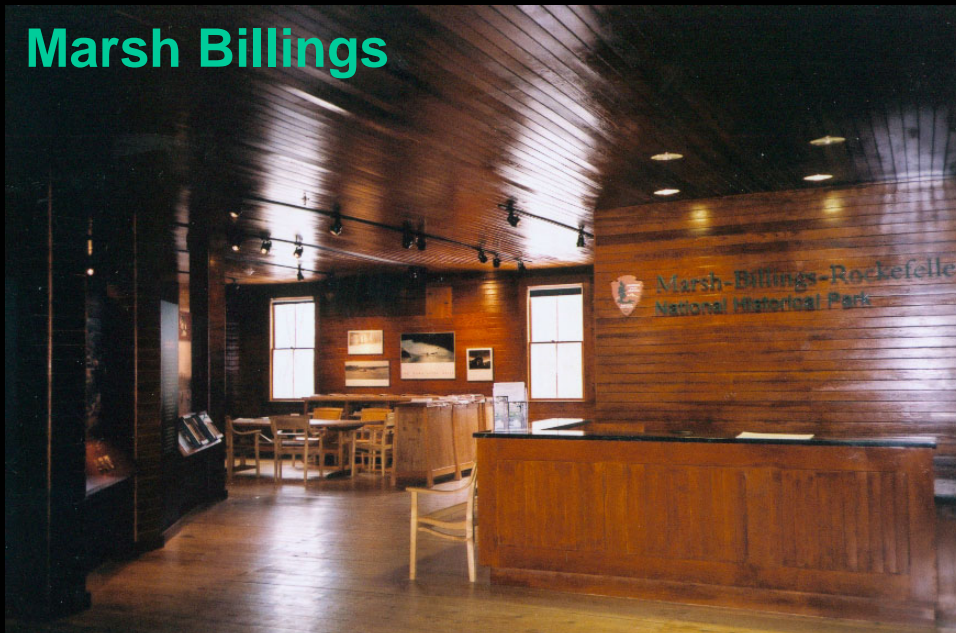
# Lobby spaces

## Lake Ross



## Country Music Hall of Fame


## Marsh Billings




## Independence



# How will visitors use your lobby space? Will the Cooperating Association offer educational materials?

**Public Areas**  
Lobby and Interpretive Sales

North Cascades CC1

Based on your number of Average Peak On-Site Visitors, the lobby, orientation, and information desk space is calculated to be (nsf):   Note!

Please check all that apply:

☒ Yes Do you require storage for interpretive materials?

☐ Do you require security measures, such as tables to search bags and/or metal detectors?

☐ Do you require an area for the distribution and collection of visitor aids, such as listening devices?

☒ Yes Are you planning to have Interpretive Sales?

☐ Is there a nearby location that could serve the same purpose?

What percent of the time will NPS have to staff the Cooperating Association Interpretive Sales area?

Start Over

Save

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North Cascades



Lake Ross



Grand Portage

## Exhibit spaces

Everglades



Saguaro



# Will your exhibits fit?

North Cascades CC1

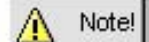


## Public Areas

### Exhibit Spaces

Based on the number of Average Peak On-Site Visitors and other factors, the exhibit space, so far, is calculated to be:

1,224

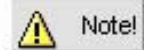


The maximum anticipated area for NPS exhibit space is 3,800 sf. If the area calculation exceeds 3,800 sf, an outdoor plaza is automatically provided for the overflow. The square footage that appears on the List of Spaces is the recommended square footage of:

1,224

#### Exceptions

Will you have limited or complex messages?



☐ Does your interpretive plan indicate up to 4 themes or messages?

☒ Does your plan indicate over 4 themes or messages?

☐ Will you have exhibits over 100 nsf and less than 200 nsf? If yes, please give a description. Some examples could be: sculptures, relief maps, historical furniture layouts, or other large exhibits.

Description:

For exhibit articles greater than 200 nsf, see the next question.


Start Over

Save

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# Do you really need a theater?

**Public Areas**

Theater Spaces

☒ Yes

Does your Interpretive Plan require a dedicated theater with fixed seats?

If yes, based on the number of Peak On-Site Visitors, the theater(s) space is calculated to be (nsf):

The allocated space will accommodate this number of people in fixed seating:

☐ Is the number of seats inconsistent with your Interpretive Plan?

If yes, what is the number of seats anticipated? Recalculated theater space is (nsf):

There are two instances where an additional theater/multipurpose room may be necessary. Check all that apply:

☐ 1) The allocation shown above exceeds 2,500 NSF (232 seats)

☐ 2) Your Interpretive Plan requires an additional theater for seating up to:  people.

☒ Yes Do you require storage for audio/visual equipment?

Start Over

Save

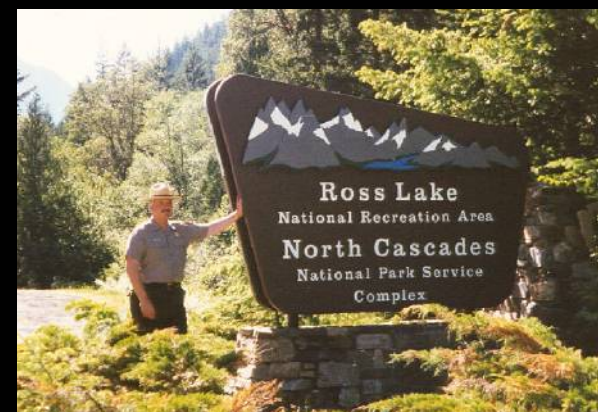
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## Park staff . . .



# Where will you locate the people needed to run the visitor facility?

**Staff**

Staff required to run the Visitor Facility

Please fill in the appropriate boxes.

	<u>Anticipated Full-time</u>	<u>Additional at Peak Season</u>	<u>Future Anticipated</u>
Will Interpretive Staff be located at this facility?			
How many Interpretive Administration Staff (including support personnel)?			
How many Interpreters/Visitor Services Staff?	2	8	4
Will Cooperating Association Staff be located at this facility?		1	2
Will there be volunteers who work in this building on a recurring basis?		3	5
Others (please explain below)			

If you indicated that there are others, please describe who they are:

Total

Full Time	2
Peak Season	12
Future	11
Grand Total	25

Start Over


Save

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# Will other park administration staff expect to have offices in this facility? Why?

**Staff**

Other Staff

The following questions pertain to other staff that may be co-located in the visitor facility. If these staff are added to this facility, please be prepared to justify locating them in the visitor facility.

	<u>Anticipated Full-time</u>	<u>Additional at Peak Season</u>	<u>Future Anticipated</u>
How many park administrative staff will be located in this facility?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
How many law enforcement staff will be located in this facility?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
How many museum collection management staff be located at this facility?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

 **Note!**

Total

Full Time0

Peak Season0

Future0

Grand Total0

☐ Are any of the staff in the above chart currently housed in other locations? If yes, where do you currently house the staff?

☐ Have all options for locating staff in other buildings been explored?

Start Over


Save


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# Need any more staff spaces?

North Cascades CC1

 **Staff Area**  
Office Support

 Note!

You will be asked to write a justification for these functions on a following screen.

☒ Yes Do you require a library? If yes:

How many volumes of books are in your collection?

How many videos?

How many slides?

**Customary space needs are automatically calculated based upon staff numbers**

☒ Yes Are you located in a remote area, over five to ten minutes from ranger station functions, and require a first aid station?

☐ Do you require a fee-counting room with safe storage?

☐ Do you have a volume of lost and found articles that would require a storage area?


☐ Do you require an emergency shelter?

☐ Can the staff area be used for emergency shelter without adding more space?

Offices, conference room, staff break room, interpretive work area, storage, recycle bins, staff lockers and restrooms will be calculated based personnel numbers entered.

# Do you need to address any special visitor experiences?

North Cascades CC1



**Additional Functions**  
Public Area - Interpretation and Education Spaces

Note!

☐

Does your backcountry and frontcountry permitting process require a separate area for an orientation film?

What is the number of visitors in each viewing?

☐

Will you have an educational program that requires a multipurpose room?

What is the average number of visitors in each program?

☒ Yes

Do you require storage for chairs and folding tables, and podiums?

☐

Will you require storage space for NPS carts used for visitor transportation?

If yes, how many carts will be on site?

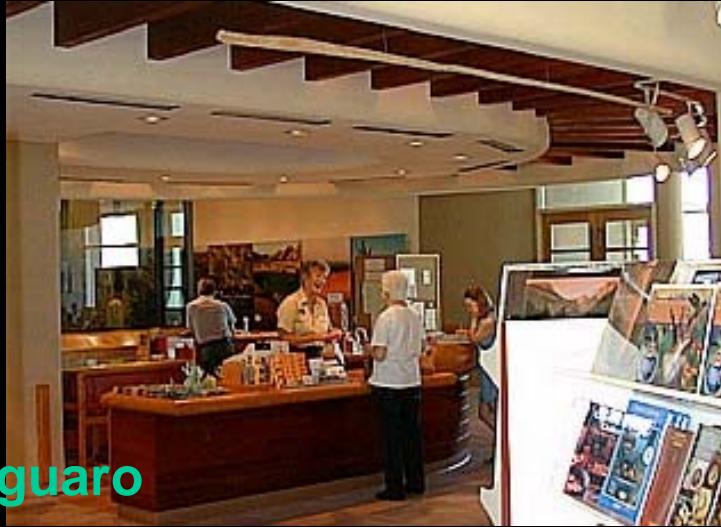
Start Over

Save

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# Cooperating Association and Concession spaces



Saguaro



Biscayne dive shop




Lake Ross

Independence





# Do you need to provide specialty concessions?




## Additional Functions

Concessionnaire

☐ Do you have a specialty concessionnaire, such as bicycle rental? If yes, please describe and indicate the amount of net square footage required. Do not include food services as this is covered in another section.

<u>Concession Space Description</u>	<u>Total Net Area Required</u>
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

Total Net SF:

 Note!

☐ Do you require a vending area?


☐ Does your concessionnaire contract require food service? If yes, choose the best food service option:  
☐ Snack Bar    ☐ Cafeteria

☐ For cafeterias and snack bars, do you know the number of meals to be served per hour?


If yes, please indicate the number of meals per hour. If no, the space allocation will be calculated based on visitation.

# Do you need museum collection space?

North Cascades CC1

 **Additional Functions**  
Museum Collection Space

You will be asked to write a justification for this function on a following screen.


☐ Do you require museum collections management space as part of the visitor facility?  Note!

☐ Are these activities located somewhere else? If yes, you will be asked explain why they are included in this facility.

**If yes, the park is required to complete the Museum Collections Facility Planning Model.**



# Didn't turn out as you expected?



## Other Spaces

Customize Your Model

North Cascades CC1

**View List of Spaces**

First choose the "View list of Spaces" button to review or print the list of spaces generated from your entries so far. Verify spaces and allocations. If spaces that you require are not listed then add them below. If spaces are listed, but are not sized for your needs, then put the space name and **the difference in nsf** below. For every space listed, select a Type of Space. When subtracting space, enter a minus sign before the square footage number. Please put a checkmark to indicate "Yes" for all Public spaces.

<u>Space Name</u>	<u>Type of Space</u>	<u>NASF</u>
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	
	?	

**Here additional spaces can be added to--or subtracted from--the model results to date**

Note!

Clear Chart

Total Net SF: 0

Start Over

Save

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## Exterior elements





# Need any specialized exterior areas?

North Cascades CC1

 **Exterior Requirements**  
Continued

☒ Yes Will deliveries be made by semitrailer? If yes, how often are deliveries made? ☐ Daily ☐ Weekly  
☒ Yes Do you need an area for trash pickup? ☒ Monthly ☐ Annually

Exterior Plaza: Of the reasons for an exterior plaza shown below, please check all that apply.

☒ Yes 1) Visitors require 24-hour access to information.  
☒ Yes 2) Exterior exhibit areas are desired to extend the indoor space.  
☐ 3) There is a need for exterior queuing areas.  
☒ Yes 4) There is a need for exterior meeting space.

☐ Does your Interpretive Plan require covered kiosks with free-standing exhibit boards?  
 How many? If you do not know, the space allocation will be based on averages.


☐ Do you need a space for informal interpretative talks?  
 If yes, about how many visitors will attend each talk?


☒ Yes Do you require a new, accessible trail as part of the visitor facility?  
 2000 If yes, how many feet of trail?

☐ Do you require improvement of an existing trail as part of the visitor facility?  
 If yes, how many feet of trail?

# Do you need to add visitor parking?

North Cascades CC1

 **Exterior Requirements**

Parking - Visitors  Note!

☐ How many visitor parking spaces do you currently have available?

☒ Yes Do you need to add visitor parking spaces? If yes, please complete the following arrival distribution:


Total On-Site Visitors:

For the Total On-Site Visitors above, please indicate how they arrive by percentage.

<u>% Total</u>	<u>Visitor Arrival By</u>
<input type="text" value="75"/>	Private Vehicles
<input type="text" value="5"/>	Recreational Vehicles
<input type="text" value="20"/>	Bus
<input type="text"/>	Commercial Boat
<input type="text"/>	Private Boat
<input type="text"/>	Train
<input type="text"/>	Hiking and Walking
<input type="text"/>	Bicycling
<input type="text" value="100"/>	Total %


# How much do you know about your utilities?

North Cascades CC1



**Utilities**  
Utilities for the site

**Definitions:** [Power and Natural Gas](#)  
[Sewer System](#)  
[Telephone](#)  
[Water System](#)

 **Note!**

☒ Yes    Do you have knowledge of these issues?

If yes, check all that apply:

☒ Yes    All utilities are on the site.

☐    There are partial utilities on the site.

☐    There are utilities that can be extended to the site.

☐    There are no utilities available.

Start Over

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# Site constraints



**soil**



**slope**



**archaeology**




**environment**





# You want to build it *where*?



## Constraints

Site and Compliance

The following questions concern soils, archaeology, and environmental issues that relate to the development of the site.

☒ Yes Do you have knowledge of these issues?

If yes, check all that apply:

	<u>Minimal</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Severe</u>
Soil Condition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slope Constraints	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Archaeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Definitions:**

- [Developable Site and Constraints](#)
- [Environmental Constraints](#)
- [Archaeological Constraints](#)
- [Soils constraints](#)
- [Slope constraints](#)

Start Over


Save

<< Previous

Next >>

# You have special needs? Please explain.

North Cascades CC1



**Additional Functions**  
Justification

You have added the following functions that may or may not be located with visitor facilities. In the box below, please describe why they have been included.

Additional Functions or Issues

No justifications required. Please proceed.

Justification

Write justifications here for the added elements

Start Over

Save

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**Data Entry Is Now Complete**




**North Cascades Visitor Center**





What is the benchmark size? What does that mean?



**Visitor Facility Planning Model**

Summary Report: Scroll down, or click on a button for a breakdown of the figures & detailed report.

GSF Report 

Cost Report 

Print Report 

Print Screens 

---

### Identification:

<b>Project Title:</b>	North Cascades CC1
PMIS Number:	11111
Region:	Pacific West
Park Name:	Ross Lake NRA
Your Name:	Tim Mann
Your Job Title:	Chief of Interpretation
Approved By:	Jon Jarvis
Job Title:	Regional Director
Created Date:	4/24/03 7:15:56 AM
Modified Date:	4/25/03 1:24:10 PM
Calculator Mode:	Custom Calculator

---

### Drivers:

Visitation and Staff	Park Database Calculations	Modified Visitation
Annual Visitation	387,216	
Projected Annual Visitation	513,855	
Average Peak Months	25.1%	
Capture Rate	25.0%	
Time Spent	.5 hr.	
<b>On-Site Visitors</b>	<b>161</b>	
<b>Total Staff (NPS &amp; others)</b>	<b>25</b>	

---

### Baseline Calculations:

	Park Database Calculations	Modified Visitation
Public Spaces (NSF)	3,200	
VF Staff Area (NSF)	2,500	
Administrative Staff (NSF)	0	
Tare	1,900	
<b>Building (GSF)</b>	<b>7,600</b>	
<b>Recommended:</b>		
Area Per Person in Public Spaces (NTE)	<b>20-25</b>	
Percentage of VF Staff Areas (NTE)	<b>SF or 33%</b>	
Percentage of Total Staff Areas (NTE)	<b>SF or 33%</b>	

### CHECK POINTS



(continuation of previous chart)  
 Space for unique park needs shown here



**Visitor Facility Planning Model**

Summary Report: Scroll down, or click on a button for a breakdown of the figures & detailed report.

GSF Report
Cost Report
Print Report
Print Screens

### Summary Report:

	Park Database Calculations	Modified Visitation
Public Spaces (NSF)	3,900	
VF Staff Area (NSF)	2,500	
Administration (NSF)	0	
Tare	2,700	
<b>Building (GSF)</b>	<b>9,100</b>	
<b>Site (Acres)</b>	<b>2.38</b>	
Exterior Requirements	0.98	
Site Access / Utility Extensions (Cost)		
Unique Construction Factors (Cost)		
<b>Total Net Construction Cost</b>	<b><i>Under Development</i></b>	
<b>Actual:</b>		
Area Per Person in Public Spaces	<b>24</b>	
Percentage of VF Staff Areas	<b>28%</b>	
Percentage of Total Staff Areas	<b>28%</b>	
<b>Recommended:</b>		
Area Per Person in Public Spaces (NTE)	<b>20-25</b>	
Percentage of VF Staff Areas (NTE)	<b>SF or 33%</b>	
Percentage of Total Staff Areas (NTE)	<b>SF or 33%</b>	

Check-values met

Check-point values are met

### Definitions:

GSF- Gross Square Feet

NASF- Net Assignable Square Feet

NSF- Net Square Feet

NTE-Not to exceed

Tare (for buildings)-Corridors, walls, mechanical, electrical, vertical shafts, vertical circulation, janitor closets, etc.

You want it how big and you want to spend how much??

# Why are the North Cascades NP/Ross Lake NRA model results different from the benchmark?

## Increases from baseline due to:

- Emphasis on Orientation rather than Interpretation
  - ▶ Changes the distribution of people within the building
- Higher Tare factor (30%)
  - ▶ Required for two-story structure (includes stairs, elevators, mechanical shafts)



# How do the North Cascades/Ross Lake Visitor Center results compare with the existing facility?

- The existing facility is bigger

- ▶ The Model estimates a need for 9,100 GSF
- ▶ The facility as constructed is 11,950 GSF

- Site visits and staff interviews indicated

- ▶ Inadequately sized information desk
- ▶ Crowded lobby
- ▶ Theater for 80 seats never fills over 20

- Model estimate points to


- ▶ Greater efficiency of use
- ▶ Redistribution of space
- ▶ Smaller facility

# Case History Two: Visitor Facility Planning Model (Custom Calculator)



Arches National Park

# What is your level of knowledge--Planning or PMIS?



## NPS Facility Calculators

1) Please select a Calculator Type.  
2) Select a previous Project Title, or click "New Project".  
3) Enter summary information, and when ready, press the "Next" button.

**Definitions:** [Quick Calculator](#)  
[Custom Sizing Calculator](#)

### Calculator Types

- Visitor Facility
- Maintenance Facility
- Museum Collection Facility
- Education Facility
- Comfort Station
- Entry Station
- Administrative Facility
- Ranger Station

### Project Titles (Visitor Facility)

- Arches CC1
- Arches CC2
- Arches QC1
- North Cascades CC1
- North Cascades QC1

### Summary

Project Title: Arches CC1

PMIS Number: 16694

Region: Intermountain

Park Name: Arches NP

Your Name: Diane Allen

Your Job Title: Chief of Interpretation

Approved By: Karen Wade

Job Title: Regional Director

Created Date: 04/24/03 7:50:14 AM

Modified Date: 04/24/03 10:53:24 AM

Calculator Mode: ☐ Quick Calculator  
☒ Custom Sizing Calculator

View Report

Start Over


New Project Edit Project Title

Duplicate Project Delete Project

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# Is it possible to change some of the visitation numbers?



## Visitation


Park Visitation

**Definitions:** [Total Annual Park Visitation](#)  
[Peak Monthly Park Visitation](#)  
[Capture Rate \(%\)](#)

Please be prepared to provide visitation projections to substantiate these numbers.

Your response to the following questions will be the basis for sizing the public spaces in the visitor facility. The variables can have a dramatic impact on the size of a space. Therefore, the left hand column shows your park's peak annual visitation and peak monthly park visitation. The average percentage of visitors expected to stop and anticipated stay is based on data of study parks. If you do not believe your park is typical of these percentages, please indicate the change in the right-hand column and provide data to support the change.


	<u>Selected Park Statistics</u>	<u>Requested Changes</u>
Annual Park Visitation:	<input type="text" value="769,672"/>	
Total Annual Park Visitation (with growth factor):	<input type="text" value="769,672"/>	<input type="text" value="769672"/> <input type="button" value="Clear"/>
Avg. Peak Months (% of Annual):	<input type="text" value="14.0"/>	
Estimated percent of visitors that stop at the Visitor Facility (% capture rate):	<input type="text" value="25"/>	<input type="text" value="60.8"/>
Average Time of Stay at Visitor Facility (hr):	<input type="text" value="0.5"/>	<input type="text" value="0.5"/>





 **Notel**

Based on the above responses:

The Average Peak Visitors per Day is:	<input type="text" value="2,020"/>	<input type="text" value="4,914"/>
The Average Peak Visitors per Hour is:	<input type="text" value="269"/>	<input type="text" value="655"/>
The Average Peak On-Site Visitors is:	<input type="text" value="135"/>	<input type="text" value="328"/>

What is the benchmark size? What does that mean?


**Visitor Facility Planning Model**  
 Summary Report: Scroll down, or click on a button for a breakdown of the figures & detailed report.

GSF Report 
 Cost Report 
 Print Report 
 Print Screens 

---

### Identification

<b>Project Title:</b>	<b>Arches CC1</b>	
PMIS Number:	16694	
Region:	Intermountain	
Park Name:	Arches NP	
Your Name:	Diana Allen	
Your Job Title:	Chief of Interpretation	
Approved By:	Karen Wade	
Job Title:	Regional Director	
Created Date:	4/24/03	7:50:56 AM
Modified Date:	4/25/03	11:31:10 AM
Calculator Mode:	Custom Calculator	

---

### Drivers:

	Park Database Calculations	Modified Visitation
<b>Visitation and Staff</b>		
Annual Visitation	769,672	769,672
Projected Annual Visitation	769,672	769,672
Average Peak Months	14.1%	14.1%
Capture Rate	25.0%	60.8%
Time Spent	.5 hr.	.5 hr.
<b>On-Site Visitors</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>328</b>
<b>Total Staff (NPS &amp; others)</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>

---

### Baseline Calculations:

	Park Database Calculations	Modified Visitation
<b>CHECK POINTS</b>		
Public Spaces (NSF)	3,400	6,600
VF Staff Area (NSF)	2,600	5,000
Administrative Staff (NSF)	1,500	2,000
Tare	2,500	4,500
<b>Building (GSF)</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>18,100</b>
<b>Recommended:</b>		
Area Per Person in Public Spaces (NTE)	25-30	20-25
Percentage of VF Staff Areas (NTE)	SF or 26%	SF or 28%
Percentage of Total Staff Areas (NTE)	SF or 41%	SF or 39%



(continuation of previous chart)

Space for unique park needs shown here

You  
want it  
*how big*  
and you  
want to  
spend  
*how*  
much??

**Visitor Facility Planning Model**  
Summary Report: Scroll down, or click on a button for a breakdown of the figures & detailed report.

GSF Report 

Cost Report 

Print Report 

Print Screens 

### Summary Report:

	Park Database Calculations	Modified Visitation
Public Spaces (NSF)	4,500	7,700
VF Staff Area (NSF)	3,100	3,400
Administration (NSF)	1,700	1,700
Tare	4,000	5,500
<b>Building (GSF)</b>	<b>13,300</b>	<b>18,400</b>
Rehabilitated Area	5,600	5,600
<b>Addition Required</b>	<b>7,700</b>	<b>12,800</b>
<b>Site (Acres)</b>	<b>2.19</b>	<b>3.63</b>
Exterior Requirements	0.35	0.88
Site Access / Utility Extensions (Cost)		
Unique Construction Factors (Cost)		
<b>Total Net Construction Cost</b>	<b><i>Under Development</i></b>	
<b>Actual:</b>		
Area Per Person in Public Spaces	33	24
Percentage of VF Staff Areas	23%	19%
Percentage of Total Staff Areas	36%	28%
<b>Recommended:</b>		
Area Per Person in Public Spaces (NTE)	25-30	20-25
Percentage of VF Staff Areas (NTE)	SF or 26%	SF or 28%
Percentage of Total Staff Areas (NTE)	SF or 41%	SF or 39%

Check-point values are met

# Is the Modified Benchmark valid for the Arches model results?

## **Arches VC Benchmark Modification:**

- Visitation changes based on Park-supplied data

- ▶ A higher capture rate of 60.8%

- Capture rate driver is valid

## **NPS management decision:**

- Do justifications merit other requested spaces?

- ▶ Orientation theater
  - ▶ Multipurpose room w/ chair & table storage
  - ▶ Lost & found, fee counting, first aid station

# Ways to ensure success

- Use the Model as a tool for evaluation
- Involve trained “professionals” in model applications
- Gain approval from authorized entity
- Be aware that model results are predictions accurate to plus or minus 10 percent



Thank you.

WASO  
Park Planning, Facilities, and Lands  
Construction Program Management  
<http://construction.den.gov>